

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A radio communication system performing multicast communication, wherein

[[a]] ~~mobile station comprises stations each comprise~~ a response signal transmitter configured to transmit a response signal including a group ID identifying a multicast group to a base station, the response signal transmitted from each of the mobile stations in response to a control signal for multicast group ~~responding to a control signal for the multicast group which the mobile station is joining in~~; and

a base station comprises:

a response signal counter configured to count the number of response signals including a same group ID identifying a same multicast group ~~a plurality of response signals to a control signal for a multicast group, the plurality of response signals being transmitted from mobile stations and including a same group ID identifying a same multicast group to which the mobile stations are requesting to join~~;

a judger configured to judge whether ~~the~~ a counted number of response signals exceeds the plurality of response signals ~~is more than~~ a predetermined number; and

a response signal transmitter configured to transmit, ~~to a radio network controller~~, a single one response signal including information that the counted number of response signals exceeds the predetermined number, or the counted number of response signals signal selected from the plurality of response signals, when the counted number of response signals exceeds the predetermined number without waiting to receive a subsequent response signal transmitted from another mobile station, when the counted number of the plurality of response signals is more than the predetermined number,

~~wherein the one response signal selected from the plurality of response signals includes information showing that the counted number of the plurality of response signals is more than the predetermined number, or the counted number of the plurality of response signals.~~

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A base station supporting multicast communication, the base station comprising:

a response signal counter configured to count the number of response signals including a same group ID identifying a same multicast group, which are transmitted from mobile stations in response to a control signal for the same multicast group ~~plurality of response signals to a control signal for a multicast group, the plurality of response signals being transmitted from mobile stations and including a same group ID identifying a same multicast group to which the mobile stations are requesting to join;~~

a judger configured to judge whether ~~the~~ a counted number of response signals the plurality of response signals exceeds ~~is more than~~ a predetermined number ~~or not~~; and

a response signal transmitter configured to transmit, ~~to a radio network controller, one a single~~ response signal including information that the counted number of response signals exceeds the predetermined number, or the counted number of response signals selected from the plurality of response signals, without waiting to receive a subsequent response signal transmitted from another mobile station, when the counted number of the plurality of response signals is more than exceeds the predetermined number;

~~wherein the one response signal selected from the plurality of response signals includes information showing that the counted number of the plurality of response signals is~~

~~more than the predetermined number, or the counted number of the plurality of response signals.~~

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The base station according to claim 3, further comprising a detector configured to detect a ~~first~~ reception of a detected response signal ~~the one response signal~~ transmitted from any one of the mobile stations; and wherein

a response signal holder holds the ~~one~~ detected response signal for a predetermined duration after the ~~first~~ reception of the ~~at least one~~ detected response signal.

Claims 6-8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A radio network controller supporting multicast communication, the radio network controller comprising:

a receiver configured to receive a single response signal transmitted from at least one base station, the single response signal including a same group ID identifying a same multicast group to which mobile stations are requesting to join[[,]] and including information ~~showing that the~~ a counted number of response signals transmitted from the mobile stations is ~~more than exceeds the~~ a predetermined number;

[[a]] an extractor configured to extract the counted number of response signals ~~information~~ from the ~~received~~ single response signal; and

a radio controller configured to perform delivery control on the mobile stations joining in the same multicast group using a common circuit common to the mobile stations when the ~~information showing that~~ counted the number of response signals is ~~more than~~

~~exceeds~~ the predetermined number ~~is extracted from the received response signal~~, and to perform delivery control using respective individual circuits of the mobile stations when the counted number of response signals ~~information~~ is not extracted from the ~~received~~ single response signal.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A radio network controller supporting multicast communication, the radio network controller comprising:

a receiver configured to receive a single response signal transmitted ~~format from~~ at least one base station, the single response signal including ~~the number of response signals transmitted from mobile stations and including~~ a same group ID identifying a same multicast group to which ~~the~~ mobile stations are requesting to join, and including a counted number of response signals;

[[a]] an extractor configured to extract the counted number of response signals from the ~~received~~ single response signal; and

a radio controller configured to perform delivery control on the mobile stations joining in the same multicast group using a common circuit common to the mobile stations when the counted number of response signals ~~extracted from the received response signal is more than a~~ exceeds a predetermined number, and to perform delivery control using respective individual circuits of the mobile stations when the counted number of response signals is not extracted from the ~~received~~ single response signal.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The base station according to claim 3, wherein the response signal transmitter is configured to transmit, ~~to the radio network controller~~, the ~~plurality of~~ response signals transmitted from the mobile stations, instead of transmitting the ~~one~~ single response signal ~~selected from the plurality of response signals~~, when the counted

number of ~~the plurality of~~ response signals is ~~less than or equal to~~ does not exceed the predetermined number.

Claim 12 (New): The system of claim 1, wherein the judger is further configured to judge whether the counted number of response signals exceeds the predetermined number for more than a predetermined duration.

Claim 13 (New): The base station of claim 3, wherein the judger is further configured to judge whether the counted number of response signals exceeds the predetermined number for more than a predetermined duration.